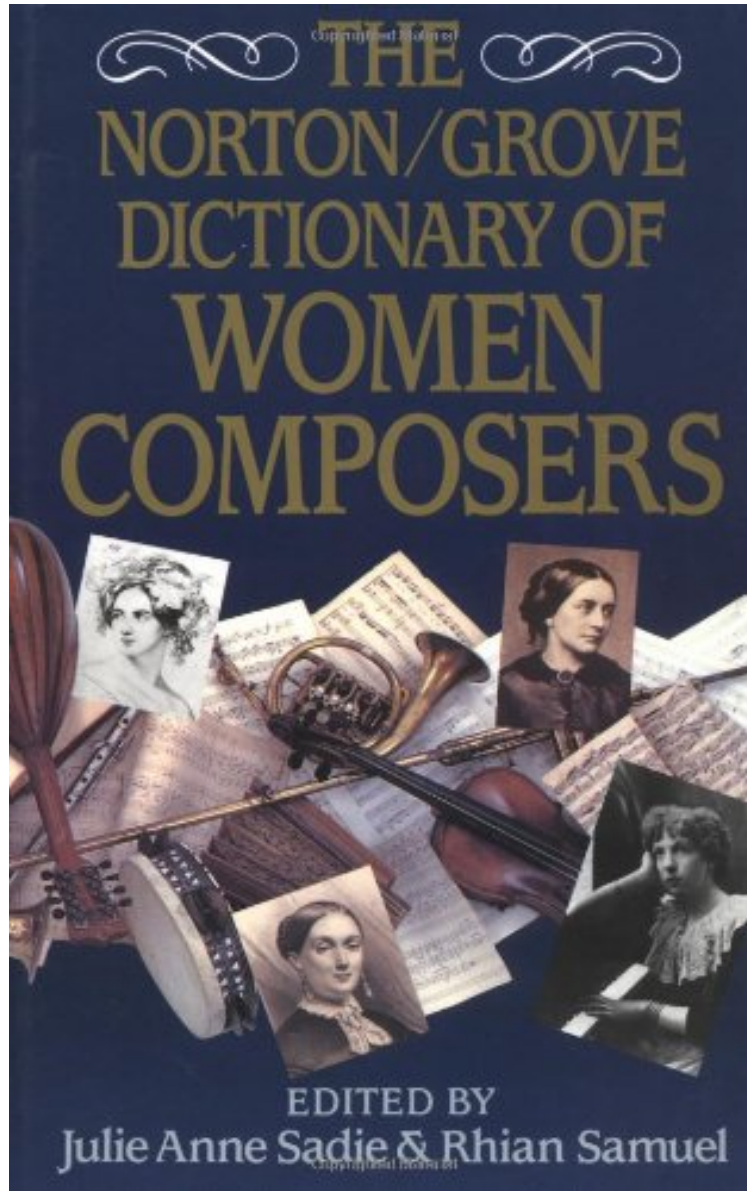


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Throughout history women have been composing music, but their achievements have usually gone unrecognized. The few in earlier times who gained some renown were as often as not the sisters, daughters, wives, or muses of well-known men. The surnames of Fanny Mendelssohn and Clara Schumann speak for themselves. Even with the present-day increase in their number, women composers have largely failed to draw the attention of the public. In recognition of these nearly invisible yet greatly talented musicians, Julie Anne Sadie and Rhian Samuel have brought together an international corps of experts to produce *The Norton/Grove Dictionary of Women Composers*. This definitive source provides detailed biographies of more than 1,000 creators of Western classical music. In signed articles, the Dictionary chronicles the lives and works of women composers from all corners of the world. Here you can read about the Medieval mystic Hildegard von Bingen, the Renaissance madrigalist Maddalena Casulana, the flamboyant seventeenth-century vocal composer Barbara Strozzi, the prolific New Englander Amy Beach, and the Pulitzer Prize winner Ellen Taaffe Zwilich.

About the Author Julie Anne Sadie is editor of *The Consort* and contributes regularly to *Gramophone Early Music*, and the *London Press*. She holds a Ph.D in musicology from Cornell University. Rhian Samuel is a composer who heads the music department at the University of Reading, England, and a writer on contemporary music. She holds a doctorate in theory and composition from Washington University.